GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2377
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
UNIVERSAL IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country`s Universal Immunisation Programme has started causing serious concern both at national and international levels;

(b) if so, after the high coverage achieved in the initial years at the time programme was started in 1990 has become stagnant and also showing rapid decline in some of the major States and UTs;

(c) if so, the other main reasons in this regard;

(d) whether 16 States and UTs have registered an increasing incidence of measles, underlining the need to improve coverage with measles vaccine which has shown a decline from 90% in 1990-91 to 80% in 1998-99; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (PROF. RITA VERMA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) During 1990-91 the reported coverage level of more than 90% was achieved at the national level. Thereafter the reported coverage with all antigens has stabilized around 90%. However the evaluated coverage in some large States especially Uttar Pradesh and Bihar has shown that there has been an element of over reporting of coverage.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) With the assistance of the World Bank, Govt. of India is proposing to strengthen the routine immunization programme throughout the country with special attention to the States of Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.